

### GPCVC and Philadelphia Foundation Recognizes Outstanding Corporate Volunteers at the 2022 Mayor's Day of Service Recognition Award Ceremony

<u>Philadelphia Foundation</u> is the host organization for the Greater Philadelphia Corporate Volunteer Council (GPCVC). The GPCVC is a coalition of member corporations dedicated to increasing the collective impact of employee volunteer engagement by fostering greater collaboration between the business and nonprofit sectors. It helps amplify, guide and promote corporate volunteerism.

By engaging the most important asset of any corporation — its employees — nonprofits can access additional skills and expertise to propel their missions.

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Now, in its third year of being hosted by the Philadelphia Foundation, the Greater Philadelphia Corporate Volunteer Council partnered once again with the Mayor's Office of Civic Engagement & Volunteer Service to recognize corporate employee volunteers at the Mayor's Annual Day of Service Ceremony. The award ceremony took place this April and honored those who have made a positive impact in their communities through national and corporate volunteer service.

As in previous years, the GPCVC recognized three individuals as **Distinguished Corporate Volunteer:** Employees of a Greater Philadelphia Company, who have gone above & beyond their fellow employees in their companies' respective employee engagement programs.

#### 2022 GPCVC Distinguished Corporate Volunteer Award Winners



**Noel Abejo,** Vice President, Technology Manger, Wells Fargo



Courtney Allen, Senior Manager, Transmission Control, PECO



Rebecca McCormick,
Senior Talent Acquisition Specialist,
Comoto

This year's slate for corporate volunteers demonstrate the diversity of passion that motivate employees to give back to Greater Philadelphia communities. In addition to the three awardees detailed below, mini-spotlights on many of the nominees are also available on the GPCVC Blog.

#### Links for More Information

- The video celebrating this year's GPCVC honorees can viewed here.
- The entire award ceremony <u>can be viewed here</u>.
- The digital program for the award ceremony <u>can be downloaded here.</u>
- To learn more about the GPCVC <u>visit us here</u>.

## PHILADELPHIA FOUNDATION

### **2022 GPCVC Distinguished Corporate Volunteer Award Winners**

"While Noel's day job is as a lead technology systems consultant for Wells Fargo, his passion for helping others led him to volunteer as leader of the company's volunteer activities in the greater Philadelphia, where the bank has more than 5,000 local employees who logged more than 25,000 volunteer hours in 2019.

Noel is a leader and co-creator of the local Wells Fargo Asian Connection employee resource network that has been active for the past five years and now has more than 350 members. Thanks to his leadership, Asian Connection members have volunteered at Broad Street Ministry, facilitated financial literacy sessions in public schools and coordinated the annual Toastmasters and Women event.

Outside of Wells Fargo, his efforts reach out into ethnic communities, and those who are underserved and under-represented. He has a passion around leveling the playing field and making sure that everyone who wants to, gets to play, whether the game is basketball, dragon boat racing or technology education.

With all of this, his greatest pride is in the mentorship that he provides to youth through the Year Up program and Big Brothers Big Sisters. Noel feels strongly that if he can help guide even one individual as they are developing the necessary skills to be successful in their careers and life, he has made a significant impact on society. As a servant leader, Noel has a unique knack for connecting with the needs of others and finding way to plug volunteers into activities that they enjoy and leverage their skills in order to meet the needs of the community.

It is rare to meet an individual as dedicated and selfless as Noel. He, has made community service part of his life's work and his dedication is infectious. While Wells Fargo deploys thousands of volunteers in the Philadelphia region each year, Noel is one of the main drivers behind keeping employees motivated and engaged. Our company would not be who we are here in the Greater Philadelphia region without his leadership"

**Nominated by**: Paralee Knight, Vice President / Sr. Social Impact & Sustainability Specialist, Wells Fargo





Noel Abejo, Vice President, Technology Manger, Wells Fargo



Noel (bottom far right) serves as a member of the American Cancer Society Bikeathon Steering Committee and has served as team captain of the Wells Fargo Cycling Team for the past seven years.

# PHILADELPHIA FOUNDATION

### **2022 GPCVC Distinguished Corporate Volunteer Award Winners**

"Courtney is an outstanding volunteer who supports various PECOsponsored volunteer opportunities, as well as gives back independently in his free time. He is a leader who truly believes in using his success and resources to help those in need...

At PECO, he has served as a mentor with the PECO Explorers program, a job shadowing opportunity for youth to learn about careers at PECO from current employees. He also served as a mentor with other organizations like Coatesville Area High School, Boy Scouts of America, and Norristown Area High School.

Since 2017, Courtney has taken his commitment to volunteerism a step further by working with the YMWIC (Young Men and Women in Charge Foundation) Foundation. He has worked to establish an internship program and job shadowing opportunities with students at Exelon and PECO. He serves as the organization's Board Vice President and has worked to help craft and implement the strategic plan for the organization. He also serves as chairmen of the facilities planning committee.

Courtney said he grew up in a low-income community and used to be one of the at-risk youths that YMWIC now serves. He shared that his career in STEM changed his life and now gives him an opportunity to change the lives of those who come from a similar situation as he did. He seeks to empower others to have the same opportunity, and his volunteer and board service with the YMWIC Foundation gives him the chance to step up and fill that mentor role that so many students need in their formative years.

Courtney is a perfect example of someone paying it forward to his community. He recognizes his personal success as an opportunity and obligation to help others. There are not many people like Courtney who invest in the next generation because he wants to see them take the same path and achieve the success he did. "

Nominated by: Anne Reisenwitz, Community Stewardship Analyst, PECO





Courtney Allen, Senior Manager, Transmission Control, PECO



Courtney Allen (center in blue with the plaque) posing with young scholars from Young Men and Women in Charge Foundation.

# PHILADELPHIA FOUNDATION

### **2022 GPCVC Distinguished Corporate Volunteer Award Winners**

"Before coming to Comoto, Becca spent 9 years working at Career Link, a non-profit where she worked 1:1 with job seekers every single day to help them write their resumes, improve their interviewing, and land job offers. She thought her resume writing and interview coaching days were behind her when she joined Comoto's Talent Acquisition team, but she happily found a new way to continue her service to the community through Comoto's relationship with New Leash on Life-USA.

In 2018, Becca took the 2-day Philadelphia prison contractors' course to prepare for working with the inmates and since then has spent the last 3 years (over 75 hours) coaching dozens of participants of the New Leash program to prepare them for their internship interviews. Working with the participants has really helped her to grow as a person and she has definitely left a mark on each person she has worked with.

Becca has chosen to utilize a skill set that she has honed over many years. It isn't glamorous, and, as she frequently says, "most people would think writing and editing resumes is a pretty nerdy skill to have." But she also says that the fact that she is able to use that skill to benefit deserving participants of New Leash has given her a renewed sense of purpose and she leaves the prison each session feeling like the work that they've accomplished is something truly meaningful.

Over the three years that Becca has volunteered with New Leash on Life, she has helped six classes graduate, which means that she has helped over 50 individuals (ranging in age from early 20s to late 50s) develop the skills and confidence to complete the New Leash on Life program, be granted early parole, and find gainful employment to support themselves and their families.

Becca has been working for over a decade to help Philadelphia residents improve their social and economic standing. She is compassionate, encouraging, and courageous. She's proudly from North Jersey, but she calls Philly home, and she makes life better for the people who live here, one person and one dog at a time. "

**Nominated by:** Martina Mansell, Communications & Community Relations Specialist, Comoto





Rebecca McCormick, Senior Talent Acquisition Specialist, Comoto